

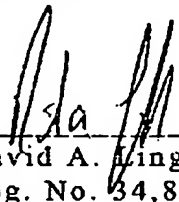
### REMARKS

In response to the official office action of February 7, 2005, applicant has canceled claims 1-4, 6-9 & 11-13 in view of the prior art. Applicant has also rewritten claims 5 & 10 as new base claims including the limitations of the original base claim and any intervening claims, and has now placed claim 10 in a condition for allowance as allowed by the examiner. Also, applicant disagrees with the examiner's rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C.103 in view of the stated prior art, because Maser in view of Aziz does not describe the structural limitations of the padded bar which is spaced above a bottom wall of the at least one elongate hollow flotation member and which is attached to side walls defining said foot-receiving slot in the at least one elongate hollow flotation member so that the user can place a front portion of one's foot under the padded bar and upon the bottom wall. Aziz describes a portable sit-up exercising device having side walls and a padded bar but does not have a bottom wall of the elongate hollow flotation member upon which the user can place ones foot. As a result, Aziz does not describe the structural limitations of the foot-retaining member. Further, Maser doesn't even describe the foot-retaining member of the present invention. So taken as a whole, Aziz and Maser does not teach this structural limitation.

Applicant has not added any new subject matter to the claims and respectfully request that the examiner takes the foregoing into consideration and that he be granted Letters Patent for his invention.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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